Colorado Division

of Reclamation, Mining & Safety Project Summary

2009 Reclamation at the Sampson, Number One, and Level Seven Portals

Remaining Reclamation Requirements

The mine drainage at the Gold King Level 7 Mine contains extremely high levels of metals and continues to flow between 150 and 300 gallons per minute. The mine drainage began after bulkheads were installed in the American Tunnel in 1995, which previously deep-drained the mining district. The mine drainage and the collapse at the Level 7 Old Portal continues to be of concern to the landowner, DRMS, and ARSG. A future project at the site may attempt to cooperatively open the Level 7 Old Portal in an effort to alleviate the potential for an unstable increase in mine pool head within the Gold King workings.



Gold King Level 7 Old Portal with well-point installed through the drain pipe. This portal may be re-opened in a future project to help stabilize the nime drainage and prevent future increases in mine pool head.

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